



CANTERBURY CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATIONS

Fireworks Display



South Hagley Park
CHRISTCHURCH

THURSDAY 15TH. FEBRUARY 1951

Fireworks Display

Presented by —

Canterbury (N.Z.) Centennial Assn.

(Incorporated)

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.

President:

His Worship the Mayor of Christchurch, Mr R. M. Macfarlane, M.P.

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The Mayors of Boroughs and Chairmen of Counties in the
Province of Canterbury.

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Fireworks Committee:

Mr R. G. Brown (Chairman), His Worship the Mayor (Mr R. M. Macfarlane, M.P.), Messrs P. S. Turnbull, H. S. Duckworth, H. C. Urlwin, C. Dunford, T. S. Hampton, L. Hudson, M. J. Barnett, E. Somers.

Organiser:

Mr T. H. Langford.

Organising Secretary:

Mr E. D. Bennett.

Display Fired By:

Mr J. Hopkins, Auckland.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

PRICE: ONE SHILLING

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Into the Dawn

LIGHTING as it were the dawn of a new century, the big fireworks display which we witness tonight is, on the authority of men who have spent a working life-time in the industry, the most ambitious presentation of its kind ever attempted in the Southern Hemisphere.

A highlight of our Centennial Celebrations, the display by virtue of its vivid symbolism, will, for thousands of our young people, weave an enduring tapestry in fire into the very fabric of their memory.

For here is the story of our people . . . the story of colonisation . . . in the brave days of iron men and wooden ships . . . the story of a people's loyalty and unfailing purpose in the implementation of an ideal—the story of a dream come true.

It is a story, not told in words but in the proud and flaming symbols of a mighty achievement—and it is fitting that to read this story those who this night stand on the good soil of Canterbury, must lift their eyes to the stars—for that way lies man's most worthy aspirations. And the founders of our province were indeed a worthy race of men.

The expectation that perhaps the largest crowd of the entire celebrations will attend this evening's display, is an acknowledgment of the unfailing fascination of fireworks for old and young.

Light, from the moment of man's first uncertain gropings, has had its irresistible lure; and here is light in all its moods and fancies—soothing and searching . . . sparkling, shimmering, twinkling, wheeling and flaming . . . here is movement and here is colour.

One hundred and twelve spectacular items in all will be embraced in a programme that must prove an unforgettable experience for all who see it. . . .

There will be few surely who will not be moved by the beautiful conception of the Salute to the Pioneers—a people's tribute etched in fire against the night. . . .

The grouping of a sailing ship, a modern liner, and the Royal Crown with the slogan **ADVANCE CANTERBURY** is an apt and illuminating paragraph in the first chapter of the Canterbury story.

And in that first chapter, too, is the saga of the Christchurch Cathedral . . . unsleeping sentinel of a people's progress.

The Cathedral . . . the Memorial Cross . . . the trees . . . you will see them all in tonight's shimmering tableau of dancing gleaming lights—a symphony in light which finds its ultimate form in the chiming of the bells and the rich swelling notes of the Cathedral organ as they rise above the surrounding trees and roll on, presently to echo over the roof-tops of Cathedral Square. . . .

CHRISTCHURCH—proud city of a celebrating province!

Programme

1. CANTERBURY CALLING

A monster shell, 30 inches in circumference, bursting high in the heavens with a terrific detonation, opens the display.

2. A FLIGHT OF MAMMOTH ROCKETS

Dispersing brilliant multi-coloured stars, streams of scintillating silvery rain and showers of golden rain.

3. CENTENARY SURPRISES

Six shells — three of 24 inches circumference and three of 18 inches scatter a profusion of fiery jewels and iridescent stars.

4. A MAORI PHOTO IN LINES OF FIRE

5. HAEREMAI

A word of welcome in four different colours and ornamented with cases of silver spray and Roman Candles.

6. PLUMES OF ARAWA

Produced by the explosion of a flight of special Electric Rockets.

7. THE CHRISTCHURCH CONSTELLATION

A most spectacular creation — Monster Shell No. 2.

8. BOMBARDMENT

Eight shells (24 inches and 18 inches in circumference) bursting high into kaleidoscopic splendour.

9. ROCKETS

2 lb. rockets attaining incredible height to burst in dazzling array.

10. RAINBOW WHEEL

Scattering silvery spray in several directions.

11. BARRAGE OF SHELLS

12. MONSTER SHELL No. 3

Releasing scores of colourful creations.

13. A BATTERY OF LARGE ROMAN CANDLES

14. WE SALUTE THE PIONEERS

A striking set-piece picked out in four brilliant colours and framed with cases of silver rain and Roman Candles emitting their starry contents. This set is one of the features of the display.

15. SHOWERS OF SCINTILLATING STARS AND SNOWDROPS

From a flight of 12 huge rockets.

16. MONSTER SHELL No. 4

Illuminating the heavens with fiery novelties.

17. DIAMONDS IN THE SKY

Produced by the rapid firing of a series of novelty shells 15 and 18 inches in circumference.

18. BRILLIANT REVOLVING FOUNTAIN

Sprinkling silvery raindrops in a wide circumference.

19. SHOWERS OF GOLDEN RAIN

Descend from shells 18 and 24 inches in circumference.

20. MONSTER SHELL No. 5

A terrific explosion followed by the discharge of hundreds of multi-coloured stars.

21. FLIGHT OF 1 lb. ROCKETS

Eight in the flight and each of a different variety.

22. A MAJESTIC SET PIECE IN FOUR DESIGNS

- (a) A SAILING SHIP OF 1850
- (b) OUTLINE OF A MODERN LINER
- (c) THE ROYAL CROWN
- (d) ADVANCE CANTERBURY

Ornamented and framed with cases of silvery spray and Roman Candles shooting out stars and fiery pearls in five separate colours. More than four thousand lights comprise this great set. When touched with the lighting torch, the whole set bursts into rare brilliance within three seconds.

THIS IS ANOTHER LEADING FEATURE OF THE
DISPLAY.

23. MONSTER SHELL No. 6

Scattering sparkling jewels and pearly strings.

24. FLIGHT OF 1 lb. AND 2 lb. ROCKETS

Crystal streamers, electric sparks and stars of varied hue.

25. BARRAGE OF SHELLS

15, 18 and 24 inches in circumference bursting like the rattling of machine-guns.

26. MAGNESIUM FLARES

Multi-coloured stars and golden rain proceed from a large Battery of Roman Candles.

27. A VOLCANO — NGAURUHOE IN ERUPTION

A set piece rarely seen in any display — this is a most realistic attraction, even to the flow of lava from the crater.

28. MONSTER SHELL No. 7

A unique scattering of pyrotechnical novelties.

29. TWINKLING STARS

Released in showers from shells 18 inches in circumference.

30. A SALVO OF ROCKETS

2 lb. and 1 lb. reveal further novelties resultant from the pyrotechnist's skill.

31. DOUBLE DIAMOND WIG-WAG

A mechanical set revolving in contrary motion and scattering sprays of silver rain.

32. MONSTER SHELL No. 8

Clusters of iridescent stars coloured like the ribbons on an adjutant's chest.

33. STREAMERS IN THE SKY

Produced from the discharge of huge rockets and shells 24 inches in circumference.

34. THE WINDMILL

With its sails beating the air, this makes a fascinating spectacle.

35. SILVERY FLAKES

Golden and coloured stars coruscate from special Roman Candles.

36. MONSTER SHELL No. 9

37. FLORAL EMBLEMS

Created by the fusion of streamers and stars discharged by 10 large rockets.

38. STARS THAT LINGER IN THE SKY

Slow-burning coloured stars released by a flight of Parachute Rockets.

39. A PYROTECHNIC KALEIDOSCOPE

Achieved by simultaneous firing of six shells 18 inches in circumference.

40. WHEEL OF FORTUNE

Fitted with a centre piece revolving in contrary motion and adorned with jets spreading silver spray around.

41. MONSTER SHELL No. 10

Ascending to a great height to release a wriggling spider. .

42. AN AERIAL EXTRAVAGANZA

Resulting from the bewildering simultaneous release of the contents of shells in three sizes.

43. JEWEL CASKET'S CONTENTS

Shot from three shells 24 inches in circumference.

44. WHIZZING, FIZZING, SAXON WHEELS

Combine with Roman Candles to claim attention.

45. MONSTER SHELL No. 11

Bursting at a great height and dropping showers of golden rain.

46. PEARLS AND CRYSTALS

Descend from the bursting of eight shells 15 and 18 inches in circumference.

47. JEWELS FROM ALADDIN

Scattered abroad when 10 large rockets open their safes.

48. FOUNTAIN OF DELIGHT

A skilful combination of silvery spray cases and Roman Candles shed their brilliance with the rhythmic revolutions of the fountain.

49. MONSTER SHELL No. 12

Shows his glory in a glittering cloudburst.

50. CASCADES OF SILVERY STREAMLETS

Descend when six shells 18 inches in circumference let loose their contents.

51. SPIDER IN THE SKY

Carried aloft by a shell 24 inches in circumference. Watch him wriggle.

52. TEN HUGE ROCKETS

2 lb. and 1 lb. with a variegated assortment of glittering fiery gems make an entrancing sight.

**53. FIVE SECONDS SILENCE followed by
THE CATHEDRAL CHIMES**

**54. THE CHRISTCHURCH CATHEDRAL MEMORIAL CROSS
and TREES ADJACENT TO CATHEDRAL**

In appropriate coloured lines of fire, obtaining an impressive result. The Cathedral set will be fired to the accompaniment of appropriate organ music transmitted from a sound system. It is the first time on record that a set piece has been fired in Australia or New Zealand with musical effect. This is fired as one complete set and marks another rare feature of the display.

55. MONSTER SHELL No. 13

Surprising effects from a shell within a shell.

56. GREETINGS FROM MARS

Announced by the reverberations from two thunderbolt shells 24 inches in circumference.

57. FLIGHT OF ROCKETS

Ten huge rockets and their Ultra-brilliant contents.

58. A BATTERY OF LARGE ROMAN CANDLES

Containing Flash Pellets, Humming Pellets and multi-coloured stars create a novel and pleasing effect.

59. RUBIES AND EMERALDS

Are created when 10 lb rockets disperse their contents.

60. CIRCULAR MOTION

An out-size in Rainbow Wheels, flanked by whizzing Saxon Wheels and Roman Candles spreads silver rain and coloured stars.

61. MONSTER SHELL No. 14

When released, the denizen of the deep writhing in the atmosphere is another revelation of the pyrotechnist's skill.

62. MACHINE-GUN EFFECTS

Result from the firing of six special shells 15 inches in circumference and discharged flash pellets.

63. GOLDEN RAIN

Will fill the sky with the bursting of a flight of 10 rockets in three sizes, viz.— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 1 lb. and 2 lb., the latter still ascending after the former two have run their course.

64. THE HUKA FALLS

An extensive spread of silver rain cascading and sparkling from a rare height. This makes an imposing sight.

65. MONSTER SHELL No. 15

A shell that speaks for itself.

66. A SALVO OF 10 SHELLS

Fifteen inches in circumference and in 10 varieties create a dazzling result beyond description.

67. COLOURS OF JOSEPH'S COAT

Are revealed by the flight of 10 large star rockets.

68. THE ACROBAT

Here we present The Man on the Flying Trapeze. Watch his gyrations as he performs his act.

69. THE RAPID FOUNTAIN

Revolving at great speed its shimmering and crystal-like rain-drops are enhanced by shooting stars from large Roman Candles which form a lively centre.

70. MONSTER SHELL No. 16

Showering hundreds of multi-coloured stars and creating a pattern of rare beauty.

71. DEMON OF THE SEA

Released from a shell 24 inches in circumference and shot to pieces by a pursuing flight of 1 lb. rockets.

72. LACEWORK PATTERNS

Are formed at varying heights by 1/2 lb., 1 lb. and giant 2 lb. rockets.

73. EASTERN GLORY

A striking set consisting of large Roman Candles, Whizzing Saxon Wheels and Silver Fountains spreading wide their ruby stars and silvery rain.

74. AERIAL BOUQUETS

Released from 10 large Parachute Rockets. Slow-burning stars drifting across the sky, create the illusion.

75. MAGICIANS' CANNONADE

Fired from mortars and keeping low, saucissons, humming and flash pellets create a weird effect.

76. MONSTER SHELL No. 17

Coming from an agricultural district, it is fitting that it should discharge a plentiful shower of golden rain.

77. TRANSFORMATION SCENE

Created by the blending of rubies and emeralds with silvery streamers, discharged by 10 large rockets.

78. SCINTILLATING DUO

Discharged from two shells 24 inches in circumference, silver sprinklets, surmounted by golden showers make an entrancing sight.

79. FIERY PIGEONS

Delight in a freedom flight and then return home.

80. MONSTER SHELL No. 18

Releasing a veritable cascade of multi-coloured stars.

81. GOLDEN CANOPY

Created by the simultaneous bursting on high of six large rockets and four shells 18 inches in circumference.

82. COLOURFUL CREATION

Achieved by blending silver rain with coloured stars from large rockets forming a rainbow effect.

83. MONSTER SHELL No. 19

Its contents combine in a marvellous constellation.

84. PRISMATIC LIGHTS

Reflecting on the trees in the park give an impression of fairy land.

85. BATTERIES OF ROMAN CANDLES

With stars and sprays of varied hue supply a pleasing variety.

86. TEN LARGE ROCKETS

2 lb. and 1 lb. chase each other skywards to burst in a bewildering display of pyrotechnic artistry.

87. MONSTER SHELL No. 20

Bursting with a loud detonation and releasing a beautiful silvery cloud.

88. A CAVALCADE OF 12 SHELLS

12, 15, 18 and 24 inches in circumference. Simultaneous exploding gives one of the most dazzling creations of the display.

89. FLIGHT OF ROCKETS

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb., 1 lb. and 2 lb containing pyrotechnical novelties.

90. EASTERN STAR

Set out in coloured flares and pointed with cases of silver spray. It has a revolving centre.

91. MONSTER SHELL No. 21

The Knight displays his beauty in a cluster of diamonds, emeralds and rubies.

92. PEARLS OF PRICE

Descend when 10 large rockets scatter them far and wide.

93. BATTERY OF SHELLS

Scintillating splendour resulting from the firing of six shells 18 inches in circumference.

94. CENTENNIAL CRACKLERS

Supplied by the firing of six special shells.

95. MONSTER SHELL No. 22

Great explosion, loud reverberation and release of fiery petals.

96. FEATHERY FLIERS

A pleasing spectacle resulting from the flight of 10 special rockets.

97. THREE RAINBOW WHEELS

Revolving simultaneously and ornamented with cases of silver and golden rain, sprinkle their contents in a wide arc.

98. MONSTER SHELL No. 23

The agent reveals himself in brilliant array and preens his beauty in mid-air.

99. TEN SHELLS

Supply a pleasing diversion.

100. A ROCKET CIRCUS

Ten large rockets of different variety cause much confusion as their contents intermingle in the sky.

101. MONSTER SHELL No. 24

One of the most beautiful shells in the display.

102. PRECIOUS FIERY GEMS

Two shells each 24 inches in circumference produce a fascinating sight.

103. FILIGREE PATTERNS

To please the ladies, drop from eight large rockets with gold and silver contents.

104. CANTERBURY ECHOES

Resulting from the explosion of two Thunderbolt shells, 24 inches in circumference.

105. A CARNIVAL OF IRIDESCENT BEAUTY

Created by showers of silver and golden rain and coloured stars from a large battery of Roman Candles.

106. MONSTER SHELL No. 25

Achieves admiration by its content of sparkling jewels.

107. A FAIRY FOUNTAIN

Cascading and showering its sparkling spray liberally around.

108. MONSTER SHELL No. 26

Transforming night into day with its shimmering array of various shades.

109. A TORNADO OF FLAME, FIRE AND CONCUSSION

Caused by the firing of three Monster Shells, Nos. 27, 28 and 29, and 20 shells of all sizes fired in the display from 20 different mortars in rapid succession. The greatest barrage ever fired in any display — an awe-inspiring sight.

110. AURORA BOREALIS

A veritable fandage of rockets chasing each other skywards and creating a brilliant spectacle.

111. GRAND FINALE

A spectacular set piece in rainbow colours: KIA ORA surmounted by a photo in coloured flares of a Maori song leader.

112. FAREWELL

As we started, so we finish — with a MONSTER SHELL.

Note.—During the burning of the Kia Ora set, the sound system will transmit the Maori Farewell Song — “Now is the Hour — and will conclude with the National Anthem.

COMING CENTENNIAL EVENTS

Jan. 25 to March 15

Retrospective Exhibition of Canterbury Art in the Durham Street Gallery. Art from the foundation of the Province to the present time.

Feb. 10, 15, 17, 24

Inter-Dominion Trotting Championships.

Feb. 15

Fireworks Display in Hagley Park, beginning at 8.30 p.m. 112 items.

Feb. 19 to 24

Floral Week. Floral Pageant on Tuesday and River Carnival on Saturday.

March 2, 3, 4

Dominion Pipe Band Championships in the Addington Showgrounds.

March 10

Combined Services' Day at Wigram, with Army, Navy and Air Force personnel in action.

March 10 to 20

Combined Choral and Orchestral Season with the National Symphony Orchestra.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CENTENNIAL VISITORS

AN INFORMATION BUREAU is open in Cathedral Square, Telephone 32-768, where information on Centennial Events, Places of Interest, Transport, Daily Happenings, Programmes, Time-tables, etc., may be obtained.

THE ACCOMMODATION BUREAU will answer all your enquiries about ACCOMMODATION in hotels, licensed or private, Boarding Houses, Privates Homes, Motor Camps.

Accommodation Officer: (C. M. Ineson), P.O. Box 237, Christchurch. Phone 31-445.

CENTENNIAL MEDALS—A limited number of medals is available for sale at the Information Bureau, or may be obtained on application to the Centennial Association, P.O. Box 237, Christchurch. Silver two-inch Medal £3/3/-. Bronze two-inch Medal 12/6. Gilt one-and-a-quarter inch 2/6.

PLAN OF DISPLAY AREA

